

an Outside Sales Representative, and in 1958, he was promoted to Assistant Classified Advertising Manager. On April 9, 1984, Ed became Advertising Director for the Journal, and ultimately became Assistant to the Publisher, a position he held until his retirement.

In addition to his tenure at the Flint Journal, Ed became a tireless advocate for civic pride and responsibility. He has been a vital part of more than 26 community organizations, including Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the United Way of Genesee County, among many others. He served on the Boards of such groups as Goodwill Industries and the Lions Club, and as Chair of four organizations including the Center City Club and the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan.

A member of the Food Bank's Board of Directors since 1991 and its Executive Committee since 1995, Ed has also acted as Nominating Chair from 1995–1997, and served on the Food Bank's Presidential Search Committee in 1994. Ed was elected Board Chairman in 1998, the position he holds to this day. During his time on the Board, the Food Bank has grown from distributing 2.6 million pounds of food in 1991 to 15.2 million pounds in 2004, providing emergency food services to more than 110,000 Genesee County residents, half of who are under the age of 17 or over the age of 65. Under Ed's leadership, the Food Bank has received several awards, and has been a national model for similar programs. In 2002, America's Second Harvest recognized the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan as the nation's best.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a tremendous amount of gratitude that I appear before you today to recognize my colleague, my constituent, and my friend, Edward Mitchell. For over 45 years, he has diligently worked to promote, protect, defend, and enhance human dignity, and he exemplifies the very best of what our society has to offer. I would also like to recognize Ed's wife Valia, their three daughters, and their seven grandchildren, and I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in wishing them all the best of luck in all their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of April 19, I missed three Rollcall votes. I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on Rollcall votes. It was my intention to vote "yes" on Rollcall No. 109 H.R. 683, Trademark Dilution Revision Act of 2005. "Yes" on Rollcall No. 110 H.J. Res. 19, providing for the appointment of Shirley Ann Jackson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. "Yes" on Rollcall No. 111 H.J. Res. 20, providing for the appointment of Robert P. Kogod as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

At this time I would ask for unanimous consent that my positions be entered into the RECORD following those votes or in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

STATEMENT IN HONOR OF MARLA RUZICKA

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Marla Ruzicka who was tragically killed on Saturday in Iraq at the age of 28. Marla's courageous work on behalf of civilian victims of war demonstrated the compassion of the American people and extended a hand in friendship to the people of Iraq and Afghanistan. Marla gave so much of herself in her short life; it grieves us to think how much more she had to give. She devoted her life to making the lives lost count. Marla's death is a loss to the world.

Ms. Ruzicka was born in Lakeport, Calif. and came to San Francisco at the age of 17 to start her career at Global Exchange. During her time with Global Exchange, she worked with African AIDS victims, Palestinian refugees, and Nicaraguan campesinos. When her work took her to Afghanistan during the war to remove the Taliban, she came face to face with the human costs of the conflict and dedicated the remainder of her life to aiding the civilian victims of war.

Two years ago, Ms. Ruzicka founded the Campaign for Innocent Victims in Conflict. With little staff and scarce funding, she successfully lobbied Congress for \$2.5 million to help Afghan war victims. The fund has since grown to \$7.5 million, and she has secured \$10 million for Iraqi victims.

Ms. Ruzicka worked not just in Washington, but on the literal frontlines of the conflicts. In Iraq, she was the leader of more than 150 volunteers who went door-to-door to compile a list of civilian casualties to determine the civilian cost of the war. She was a fierce advocate for the victims' families, serving as the point of contact between affected Iraqi civilians and the U.S.-led forces. Ms. Ruzicka helped direct aid where it was most needed, and she helped many Iraqi families begin to pick up the pieces of their shattered lives.

On April 16, Ms. Ruzicka was on her way to visit another Iraqi family devastated by the conflict when a suicide bomber attacked a nearby U.S. convoy. She died in the blast.

Mr. Speaker, Marla Ruzicka reminded us of the immense scale of human suffering that war brings. She gave her time, her energy, and ultimately her life to help ease the suffering of its victims. She is an inspiration to people around the world.

I hope that it is a comfort to her parents, Clifford and Nancy, her brothers and sisters, and all her family and friends, that so many people share their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

IN HONOR OF LINDA SMITH

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Linda Smith for her years of dedicated service and outstanding commitment to the labor movement. Mrs. Smith received the

Labor Person of the Year Award, sponsored by the AFL-CIO, at the annual Labor Awards Breakfast on Sunday, April 17, 2005.

For 25 years, Mrs. Smith has been a member of the Communication Workers of America (CWA) Local Union 1082. During that time, she has demonstrated strong leadership skills as president of the Local 1082 for the past eight years and as an elected member of the executive board for ten years. Mrs. Smith is known by her fellow Local 1082 members for her willingness to volunteer her time and help in whatever capacity necessary to support the union, and her perseverance and self-sacrifice cannot be measured.

When she is not involved with the Local 1082, she is serving as vice-president of the Middlesex County AFL-CIO Labor Council and as a labor representative to the Middlesex County Workforce Investment Board. Additionally, she is a committee person for the Franklin Township Democratic Organization.

Apart from her involvement with labor and community groups, Mrs. Smith has worked for 25 years at the Middlesex County Board of Social Services. A graduate of Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School, she has also studied at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies and Rutgers University. She is the mother of three sons and lives in Somerset.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Linda Smith for her active participation in the CWA and her exemplary service to her fellow union members throughout the years.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER PRIVACY AND IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION ACT OF 2005

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, the use of Social Security numbers is rampant. When Social Security numbers were created in 1936, their only purpose was to track a worker's earnings so that Social Security benefits could be calculated. But today, we literally have a culture of dependence on Social Security numbers.

Businesses and governments use the number as the primary way of identifying individuals. All of us know how difficult it is to conduct even the most mundane transactions without having to provide our Social Security number first. It's no wonder identity theft has become the fastest growing white collar crime.

Worse yet, terrorists, including those responsible for the September 11th attacks, misuse SSNs in order to assimilate into our society.

Barely a day goes by without hearing more examples of the truly devastating effects of identity theft. During a hearing of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security hearing, we learned about a widow whose husband died in the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center—an illegal immigrant used her deceased husband's Social Security number to get a driver's license and to work. We also heard about individuals whose credit was ruined, who were arrested for crimes they did not commit, and who spent